of Sarojini Nagar Post Office, Delhi was assaulted by the son of the Dy Commissioner Police, Shri Chaman Lal;

(b) whether it is also a fact that at the Vinay Nagar Police Station, the registration of FIR against the assaulting person was refused resulting in a strike in the Post Office from January 4 to 7, 1989; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken in the case as yet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) An altercation between Shri Rakesh son of Shri Chandra Prakash, Deputy Commissioner of Police and Shri Hukum Singh, Postman did take place. Both the sides have given different versions of the incident.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. As both the parties narrated different versions of the incident, the matter was enquired under Rule 24.4 of Punjab Police Rules and a copy of the report was delivered to the postman through the postmaster of Sarojini Nagar Post Office.

A complaint has been filed by Shri Rakesh in the Court. The matter is sub-judice.

No official notice for strike was given to the police.

Allotment of lockers by the State Bank of Indore

995. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain State Bank of Indore branches in Delhi do not allot lockers to customers unless they deposit a certain amount with the Bank as a fixed deposit; and

(b) if so, what are the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India in respect of allotment of lockers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) State Bank of Indore has reported that its branches in Delhi do not insist on fixed deposits for allotment of safe deposit lockers.

(b) Reserve Bank of India have issued instructions to all the public sector banks regarding allotment of lockers. These instructions provide that atleast 80 per cent of lockers should be allotted by banks on first cum-first served basis and the remaining 20 per cent on business considerations. The instructions also provide that the banks should not insist on fixed deposits as a prerequisite for allotment of lockers. There will, however, be no objection to banks seeking a deposit (but not as a condition for allotment) from the applicant who has been allotted a locker to cover the annual rent of the locker from the interest on the deposit. In the alternative, advance payment of locker rent for a period of 3 years may be collected from the locker holder.

Counter-trade with Bofors

996. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MOU on counter-trade with Bofors was signed to generate a new export market or to divert the existing exports though Bofors nominated intermediaries resulting in extra-expenses as commission and service charges etc. to them; if so, what are the details in this regard;